



BIBLE HABITS

CONVERSATION #2: How to Read the Bible

ICEBREAKER: FINISH THIS SENTENCE

Let’s start today’s conversation by taking a moment to reflect on your personal experience with the Bible. Finish the sentences below with your first thoughts and reactions.

- When I hear, “Read the Bible,” I feel _____.
- One thing I wish someone would have told me sooner about the Bible was _____.
- I usually open the Bible when _____.
- When I try to read the Bible on my own, I usually _____.
- The biggest thing that makes reading the Bible difficult for me is _____.
- I would feel more confident reading the Bible if _____.

STUDY: A LAMP TO YOUR FEET

As you think about what you just shared, isn’t it interesting that most of our struggles with the Bible aren’t about a lack of desire, but a lack of confidence? We often hesitate to open Scripture because we feel like we’re supposed to understand everything all at once. But God never designed His Word to overwhelm us - He designed it to guide us. That’s where this next verse reframes how we read the Bible.

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path - Psalm 119:105

This verse reminds us that God’s Word functions like a lamp, not a floodlight. A lamp doesn’t show the entire journey ahead; it simply gives enough light to take the next step. Many people avoid reading the Bible because they expect it to answer every question or solve every problem at once, and when it doesn’t, they feel discouraged.

But Scripture is meant to give guidance for today, not full clarity for the rest of your life. Confidence grows not by knowing everything, but by faithfully walking step by step in the light God provides. To see this truth throughout the scriptures, look up the following passages together:

Joshua 1:8	2 Timothy 3:16-17	Hebrews 5:12-14	Acts 17:11
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Together, these passages show that reading the Bible is not about mastery, but about movement - taking the next faithful step with God’s Word lighting the way.

If the Bible has ever felt confusing, intimidating, or overwhelming, the goal isn't to read *more* - it's to read with a simple plan. You don't need a leader, a commentary, or years of experience to begin hearing from God for yourself. What you need is a repeatable way to take the next step. This tool is designed to help you open the Bible with confidence and let God's Word light your path one step at a time.

BIBLE READING TOOL: A L.A.M.P. FOR YOUR PATH

- **L - Look (Read the Passage)**

Begin by reading a short section of Scripture - about 5–10 verses. Take your time and resist the urge to rush or skim. You don't need to read a whole chapter to grow - you need consistency. God often speaks in small portions, not large doses.

- **A - Ask (What Stands Out?)**

As you read, ask some simple questions: What stands out to me? What words or ideas repeat? What surprises or challenges me? As you ask these questions, you're not searching for the "right" answer – just an honest observation. God begins to work through getting your attention.

- **M - Move (Read the Passage)**

Next shift from information to ownership by asking questions like: What does this show me about God? What does this reveal about me? What is one small step I can take today? This is where you begin to grow – not just through knowing more, but by moving forward.

- **P - Pray (Respond to God)**

Once you've done these things, turn what you've read into a simple prayer. Thank God for what He revealed. Ask for help where you need it and commit to obeying the next step that God shows you.

Take the next few minutes to practice using the L.A.M.P. method together. Read Matthew 6:25-34, then work through each step together. **Look** at the text and read it slowly. **Ask** what stands out, repeats, or surprises you. **Move** by identifying one small step God may be inviting you to take today. Finally, **Pray** by responding to God in one simple sentence, asking Him to light your next step.

CHALLENGE: DAILY BREAD READING PLAN

This week, challenge yourself to **start your day** by turning on the **L.A.M.P.** If you need to wake up a few minutes earlier, do it - before you scroll, before the noise, before you rush out the door. Open the Bible first and read a short passage using the **L.A.M.P. method**, letting God's Word light your next step before any other voices speak.

For this week, choose not to listen to a sermon, podcast, or devotional **until after** you've opened Scripture for yourself. Notice how starting with the Bible first affects your focus, confidence, and connection with God throughout the day. At the end of the week, share what you've learned with your discipleship partner(s) and share about what felt different.